

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 214403
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /009 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TRA/MA:RKBANK-EW
APPROVED BY EB/TRA/MA:RKBANK
-----090881 240158Z /61
R 231957Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 214403

FOR JAMES, LOS DEL

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:EWWT

SUBJECT:US/BULGARIAN MARITIME TALKS

FOLLOWING IS A REPEAT
QUOTE

R161705Z JUNE 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7246
INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

CONFIDENTIAL LONDON 09605

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EWWT, BU
SUBJECT: US/BULGARIAN MARITIME TALKS

REF: STATE 144617 AND PREVIOUS

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1. U.S .AND BULGARIAN REPRESENTATIVES MET IN LONDON
JUNE 15 AND 16. THE U.S. DELEGATION CONSISTED OF RICHARD K.
BANK, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MARITIME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF

STATE; JUDITH H. BELLO, OFFICE OF THE LEGAL ADVISER,
DEPARTMENT OF STATE; H. CLAY BLACK, SHIPPING ATTACHE,
U.S. EMBASSY, LONDON; AND RICHARD GAGE, FOREIGN MARITIME

REPRESENTATIVE, LONDON, MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. THE TALKS, HELD AT THE U.S. EMBASSY, WERE SUCCESSFUL. THE BULGARIANS WERE EXTREMELY COURTEOUS, WORKMANLIKE, AND COOPERATIVE. AN ELEVEN ARTICLE U.S. DRAFT AND A TWENTY-ONE ARTICLE BULGARIAN DRAFT MARITIME AGREEMENT WERE REVIEWED AND BOTH SIDES HAD LITTLE DIFFICULTY IN AGREEING AD REFERENDUM UPON THE U.S. DRAFT ARTICLES WITH MINOR CHANGES AND ADDITIONS. NEITHER SIDE MENTIONED SHARES OF CARGO OR SHARES OF TRADE.

2. IT QUICKLY EMERGED THAT THE MAJOR DESIRE OF THE BULGARIANS WAS A REDUCTION OF PORT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR ITS VESSELS CALLING AT U.S. PORTS ALTHOUGH SPECIFICS, OTHER THAN A FOUR-DAY NOTICE SYSTEM SET FORTH IN THEIR DRAFT AGREEMENT, WERE NEITHER PRESSED NOR MENTIONED AFTER AN EXPLANATION BY THE USDEL OF THE CURRENT PORT ENTRY STATUS OF EASTERN EUROPEAN FLEETS, THE BULGARIANS SIMPLY REQUESTED THAT THE U.S. GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO CHANGES IN THE REQUIREMENTS. THEY HAVE REQUESTED THAT WE REPLY IN OCTOBER (SEE PARA 4 BELOW).

3. BOTH SIDES REVIEWED THE STATUS AND NATURE OF OUR OVERALL BILATERAL SHIPPING AND TRADE, AND THE U.S. SIDE SUBTLY REVIEWED THE ROLE PLAYED BY BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.N. YANKOV IN THE INITIATION AND DESIRED SUCCESS OF THESE TALKS.

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4. AS ALSO DISCUSSED BETWEEN DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HORMATS, EB/MA DIRECTOR BANK, AND BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR GRIGOROV IN WASHINGTON, BOTH SIDES AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TALKS AGREED TO HOLD FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN VARNA, BULGARIA DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 2, 1978.

5. AT THE REQUEST OF THE BULGARIANS, AN "AGREED MINUTE", INCORPORATING A SUMMARY SIMILAR TO THAT SET FORTH ABOVE, THE AGREED ARTICLES, AND THE DELEGATION LISTS, WAS SIGNED BY THE HEADS OF DELEGATION. COPIES WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT (EB/MA) AND TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA. BREWSTER. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARINE TRANSPORTATION, EAST WEST TRADE, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE214403
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780345-1097
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780831/aaaabaaf.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 10b8305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 144617
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1644417
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US/BULGARIAN MARITIME TALKS FOLLOWING IS A REPEAT QUOTE
TAGS: EWWT, BU, US
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/10b8305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014